INTERESTING FROM TEXAS.

Our Brownsville Correspondence.

BROWNSVILLE, ON THE RIO GRANDE, TEXAS, Oct. 23, 1854.

The Recent Failure of the Mexican Revolutionists—Preparations for Another Attack on the Dictator—Causes of the Late Disappointment—Cowardice of General Ampudia—Progress of Alvarez, and his Hopes of Aid—Action of General Woll in Matamoras—Revolutions on the Rio Bravo—Arrival of Colonel Wheat, and his Interviews with the Liberating Chiefs—Trade and Health Reports, &c.

The fortunes of the insurgents, or revolutionists, in the adjoining Mexican territory, have undergone a serious change since my last to the HERALD, and we have now on this side of the river all the leaders of the recent outbreaks, again preparing, under brighter hopes and better auspices, to renew the attack and again make a desperate effort to drive the Dictator's troops out of the country between the Sierra Madre and the Gulf of Mexico.

The whole secret of the failure of the recent undertaking seems to have been the want of sufficient funds and munitions of war. Victoria was only abandoned by the besiegers when they had in a manner fired their last ball against their savage assailants. For three days and nights less than 400 of the gallant natives of the frontier nobly repulsed the attacks and assaults of more than eighteen hundred of the tyrant's minions, who had eleven pieces of artillery incessantly playing upon the devoted place. Unmolested, they abandoned the mass of ruins at night; and this was done when only about one-fourth of their whole number could be considered as fully armed.

In vain the devoted rebels, after uniting with their friends who routed the government forces under Cruz, in the neighborhood of Matamoras, offered them an open field fight, with far inferior numbers and without artillery. In vain they advanced boldly on Monterey, and remained there over twenty-four hours, defying Santa Anna's Pacha, General Ampudia, and daring him to come out of his fortifications and give them battle; and in vain their undisciplined cavalry entered the city in hopes that the enemy would sally out of their entrenchments to attack them. When satisfied that Ampudia would not abandon his fortifications, from which for over twelve hours he fired on them with all his artillery, they determined to retreat leisurely at night, as, when they advanced on the city, it had only been in hopes of deciding its fate by a field fight. When they considered that Ampudia had all the advantages of numbers, and as he well knew that the revolutionists had no artillery, they reasonably believed that on their approach to Monterey he would have come out to attack and disperse them. Far from this having been the case, not even an attempt to harrass them was made after they commenced to retreat quietly from the very suburbs of the city itself. In detached parties they crossed over to this side of the river, when only about one half could properly be considered as fully armed, so completely had their ammunition given out.

I am intimate with the leaders who are now here, and, knowing as I do, their plans and object, I have reason to believe that they will shortly organize on the other side of the river a force which, if necessary, will advance on the city of Mexico, and in the national palace shake hands with the "Panther of the South," Don Juan Alvarez. This iron-hearted veteran of the Victoria and Guerrero school advances steadily, but slowly, on the capital of the tyrant's dominions, fully resolved to make him account for the atrocities committed by himself and lieutenant, when, in June last, he invaded the land of the Pintos, and by bribery and corruption attempted to capture Acapulco. If the fate of arms should cast the petty Mexican Nero into the hands of Alvarez, he will scarcely be able to wheedle himself out of the country with his ill-gotten booty, and the chief of the Pintos will make a terrible example of him.

So soon as His Serene Highness's officer in Matamoras, General Don Adrian Woll, was made aware of the fact that the rebels had temporarily abandoned the field, he commenced confiscating the property of those who had [illegible] arms against his master and himself. S[illegible]re sent to the ranchos or stock farms of th[illegible]rties thus offending. Droves of every description of animals were brought into the "loyal and heroic city," where they were offered at public auction; but as no one would purchase, the mules and horses were distributed among the officers and soldiery; at the same time that the goats, the cattle, and the sheep are being consumed by the military, who receive them as rations. Whatever animals proved too refractory to be driven out of the range were either killed or run through with their lances, and in that manner left cut in the woods to perish. They have thus most wantonly destroyed much property, which not only the real owners themselves, but the country at large, will seriously feel; and it is the more galling when it is borne in mind that the most of this very property confiscated and so barbarously destroyed, is the separate and private property of the wives and mothers of those who took a part in the recent revolutionary movement.

As I had predicted in letters written months ago, the result of Santa Anna's madly despotic measures has been to drive out of the country a great many of that class of the population which in fact constitutes the real bone and sinew of what, in his dominions, is called the "frontier of the north." If to carry out his doubtlessly settled policy of ruining that frontier, he had searched the world over with a microscope, he could not have found one more appropriate for the purpose than he has in the person of General Don Adrian Woll. This mercenary, like his miscreant master, has had for years past many good reasons for hating the people on the margins of the Bravo. They both know full well at least that their love is warmly reciprocated on that frontier.

Persecutions, confiscations, banishments and imprisonments are the order of the day on the Mexican side of the line, and the charge or bare suspicion of having uttered but one word against the "powers that be," will secure you accommodations in a filthy dungeon, or your passage free to the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa.

Some days ago, three soldiers deserted from Matamoras, and having been arrested and brought back to that place, in less than twenty-four hours after their arrival they were tried, convicted, confined in a solitary cell, confessed by a priest and shot! In other parts of the country, others have suffered the same penalty, for the crime of having been the fathers of young men who were known to have been in arms against the present government. However improbable and shocking to humanity this may seem, it is nevertheless true to the very letter.

Among other late arrivals among us, I notice that of the chivalrous filibuster Colonel C. R. Wheat. What wind may have blown him out here just at this time of revolutions in embryo, is not even known to that prying portion of our good rational community who knows more of other people's business than they do about their own. I will simply mention that he had several interviews with some of the leaders of the insurgents; and, should they, as I suppose, let him into the game they are about to play, be assured that the Colonel will render a good account of himself. He is one of your "fast men," and real grit; so that, as the stakes to be played for by the liberators against the dictator and his janissaries are to be human heads, the Colonel would doubtless take a most lively interest in keeping the run of the game.

The trade and commerce on the lower Rio Grande are in a languishing condition, and will continue so until a radical change takes place in "Greasedom" over the way.

As yet we have not been visited by the cholera or yellow fever, although the late frequent rains have caused considerable sickness here and along the river. The prevailing fevers, however, easily yield to medical treatment.

Reliable information received here and in Matamoras, confirms the rumor we had had for some days past about the cholera's ravages in the adjoining Mexican territory, and large numbers of the inhabitants in Victoria, Sota la Marina and other places in Tamaulipas, have fallen victims to this scourge of humanity. The epidemic is now in San Fernando, only distant some ninety miles from Matamoras.

By the Nautilus, which will be due here next Sunday from New Orleans, I will send you a brief account of the arrest of the leaders of the late revolutionary movement, and of their examination and acquittal before one of the United States Commissioners in this place, as also whatever other little items of news I may be able to communicate.

We have no news from the upper Rio Grande, and all are anxiously looking for a sudden change of affairs among the "magnanimous" of the neighboring miscalled republic. The unnatural state of things on the other side of the river cannot continue much longer, and the present bunglers in the science of government in Mexico will have to abandon the helm to abler pilots.

I have unintentionally written a longer letter than I had intended, and fearing that your patience may give out in reading it, I will hastily sign the name of the stream called by geographers RIO BRAVO.

BROWNSVILLE, ON THE RIO GRANDE, TEXAS, Nov. 1, 1854.

Arrest, Trial and Acquittal of the Tamaulipas Revolutionists—Neutrality Laws of the United States—Their Mexican Defender—Action of the United States Commissioner—A Group of Witnesses—Death of a Deserter—Mexican Refugees in Brownsville—Reported Movement at Tampico and Zacatecas—The Execution of Count Rousset de Boulbon—War Appointment of Santa Anna—The Weather—Brownsville Gossip.

Complying with the promise made in my last, I will in this send you a brief account of the arrest, examination and acquittal of the leaders of the late unsuccessful revolutionary movement in Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon, against Santa Anna and his agents or overseers in that portion of his dominions.

No sooner was it known that many of the officers and leaders of the "insurgents" had arrived here, than, instead of giving them "aid and comfort," a law-loving cry was raised by Santa Anna's reputed agents in this place, about the impunity with which the neutrality laws of the United States had been, and were being, violated. The requisite affidavit against them was necessary, and at last, by the most vigilant search, an old, half civilized Mexican woman was found to sign it, charging Gautier, Capistran, Garcia, and some fifty others, some of whom had not been for years on this side of the Rio Grande, with having violated the neutrality laws of the United States, by organizing, arming, and equipping a military expedition on this side of the Rio Grande, on or about the 12th day of August, A. D., 1854, and with the same having invaded the territory of Mexico, a power with which the government of the United States was then, and is now, at peace.

Process was accordingly issued by one of our United States Commissioners, and the Deputy Marshal arrested the parties accused, who presented themselves on the 7th ult., to answer the charge made. Forty-two subpœnas for witnesses in behalf of the prosecution were issued, and the first called to the stand was the Mexican Consul, the representative of Santa Anna's dignity in Brownsville. Then followed for ten days the examination of the other witnesses, and all the depositions were brought to a close by taking that of no less a personage than Major Giles Porter, commanding Fort Brown.

Among the numerous witnesses present, could be seen lawyers, doctors, officers in the United States Army, postmasters, druggists, wholesale merchants, retail do., justices of the peace, sheriffs, constables, interpreters, counting house clerks, ex-citizens of Mexico who had been heretofore governors, members of the Cabinet and of Congress in that country, sportsmen, horse thieves, loafers and others who were with the insurgents when, in August last, they defeated the government forces under General Cruz, and drove him into the "loyal and heroic Matamoras." The evidence of all was most patiently taken down, and the only fact conclusively proved to the satisfaction of the court and all parties concerned, was that we have in Brownsville a greater number of Know Nothings, in proportion to its population, than can be found in New Orleans, New York, or any other city in the ocean bound republic. The decision of the United States Commissioner was, that, as no proof of the defendants' guilt had been adduced, he would discharge them from custody. They were accordingly liberated, and are now as free as the mountain air.

In our neighboring sister city of Matamoras, another unhappy being was shot by the military on the 27th ult. for the crime of desertion. Torn by the rude hand of violence from their obscure and humble homes, and pressed against their will and feelings into a service they despise, the wretched creatures avail themselves of every opportunity that presents itself for regaining by desertion their lost liberty, although in case of capture they are aware that a violent death is in store for them. The day may not be far distant when their unfeeling executioners will themselves hopelessly invoke the sacred word of mercy.

Our city is at present crowded with ex-citizens of what is now ironically called the republic of Mexico, seeking in foreign lands that safety and protection denied them in the country that gave them birth. Among these refugees can be noticed highly polished men, who, heretofore in Mexico, have been members of the Cabinet, of Congress, Governors of some of the ex-States, Judges on the bench, editors of leading journals, officers in the army, and many others of less note. If you speak to them of their country's present situation, they smile in bitterness, and tell you that a brighter future awaits the land of the Aztecs.

His Serene Highness's satrap in Matamoras, Gen. Woll, has offered the leaders of the insurgents now here a free pardon if they will return to their homes and live there peaceably. His generous offer has been treated with contempt, and they only wonder at the brazen impudence and unblushing effrontery of those who imagine they could have the least confidence in Santa Anna's promises, as a man or as a ruler. To urge that Santa Anna is capable of acting in good faith, is only to expose one's self to be suspected of being a knave or a fit subject for a madhouse. To suppose that he is ever actuated by patriotic and disinterested motives, is to "chuck away your time."

For a day or two past, a rumor, that has received some credit, is in circulation over in Matamoras, that Tampico and Zacatecas had both revolted against the Dictator. I give the rumor for what it is worth. It is further asserted that Yanez, who captured and shot the Count Raousset de Boulbon, had been recalled to Mexico, but that having reached the city of Guadalajara, he had there made a halt and refused to obey further orders from Santa Anna. This city, which is the seat of government of the powerful State of Jalisco, is famous in the history of Mexican civil commotions, for the successful issue of all the revolutions it has ever initiated against the general government.

It is now affirmed that General Woll has been called to Mexico to take charge of the portfolio of war, and others say to take the command of one of the two divisions that are being organized by Santa Anna to send against Alvarez, who, with his forces, is so operating as to throw open to commerce all the ports on the Pacific, and by which means he can command men and money with which to continue making his ground good against the despot, in the very heart of the country itself. No Mexican, among the more enlightened and unprejudiced among them, seems to doubt for a moment Alvarez's final triumph over Santa Anna. They look upon it as a mere question of time.

Our city continues to improve gradually, and the number of churches of different denominations, as also our schools for the young of both sexes, are proof sufficient of our moral and religious progress.

The weather, for the season of the year, is remarkably warm, and a good norther now would be acceptable, as it would dispel the fevers that in their milder state yet prevail on the river.

From above we have not one word of news, and our speculators and trading men are patiently on the look out for a change of affairs on the other side of the line.

I will endeavor to keep the run of affairs out here, and keep the HERALD duly informed of what is transpiring on the margins of the Rio Bravo.

MEXICO ON THE RIO GRANDE.

Letters from Brazos Santiago to November 4th, state that the Mexican revolutionists, on the line of the Rio Grande, are in a bad way. A correspondent of the New Orleans *Picayune* writes:

The revolution under the guidance of Governor Man de la Garza and Carvajal has been brought to a close. Gov. Garza, with a few determined men, held Victoria until their powder was exhausted, when they retreated to this country and are now in Brownsville. Pardon has been offered to all who will lay down their arms.

I think another demonstration will soon be made, and by men who will see that nothing is wanting. A few Americans will join the present movement and throw life and vigor into the campaign. Carvajal did not participate in this late movement, but may possibly in the contemplated one. He is farming on the Rio Grande, and is decidedly the ablest man in northern Mexico. He speaks and writes our language fluently. He is much pleased with the plan of Alvarez, and endorses it.

General Woll, in command of Matamoras, has shot forty or fifty soldiers, who refused to fight against their fellow citizens. I witnessed from the deck of the steamer Champus an execution two or three days ago. The poor fellows were at first blindfolded and then led to a large wooden cross, to which they were tied. An officer then proclaimed in a loud voice that if any one would ask for their pardon they should be shot with them.

Five soldiers with loaded muskets then advanced to within three paces of each prisoner, and at the tap of the drum, fired, tearing the heads of their victims to pieces. A lively air was then struck up and the brave men went back to their breakfasts. Scarce a day passes without an execution.

A WHOLE FAMILY KILLED.—We stated at the time of the great accident on the Rock Island Railroad that the wife and two children of William C. Laughlin, of Gettysburg, Pa., were among the killed. Within a few days we have been received of the death of Mr. Laughlin himself and his mother, Catharine Laughlin. His neice, Mary, the only one left of the party, a bright little girl of some six or seven years of age, is also badly scalded, and at last accounts was not expected to survive. Mr. Laughlin was on his way to Iowa, where he had intended to purchase a property and commence business.

Affairs in Mexico.

[From the Charleston Mercury, Nov. 18.]

There is little in the published news from this unhappy country to indicate its real condition. Publications adverse to the government are watched, and in every possible way suppressed; and of course the government organs furnish nothing but what is favorable. But private advices, of a reliable character, represent that the hostility to the central government is everywhere spreading and gathering strength and consistency. The State of Guerrero, which first rose in arms, after baffling and nearly destroying the powerful force which Santa Anna, in person, led against it, has ever since maintained its independence, unmolested by any serious attempt. Michoacan, adjoining Guerrero, followed in its wake, and in the many encounters with the government troops it has almost always had the advantage, and its position of hostility to Santa Anna is represented as daily gathering strength. In the northern departments, (States that were once,) of Tamaulipas, New Leon, Coahuila and Chihuahua, bordering on our own territory, it is known that there is a pervading and increasing hostility to the central government.

It is especially worthy of note, that all these revolutionary movements professedly aim at the recovery of State sovereignty, as the one great means of assuring to themselves a responsible and safe government. Their leading men seem well to understand the nature and remedy of the public malady. They seek to restore life to the extremities of the republic, and thus to constitute many centres of opinion, of legislation, and of permanent checks upon the power of the central government. In destroying these, for the sake of securing irresponsible power, Santa Anna has in fact destroyed the power of the frontier States to resist the barbaric influences that perpetually threaten them, and the actual civilized region governed by Mexico has been regularly contracting in limits since the commencement of his rule. In fifty years of such government there would survive scarcely a vestige of Spanish civilization.

Alvarez, the Guerrero chief, who first unfurled this banner of State sovereignty, knows well what is meant by it, and is skilled in the history of our own controversies on that subject. A South Carolinian gentleman, returning from California through Mexico last summer, passed within the military lines of Alvarez. In the interview that ensued, the Guerrero chief remarked, "You certainly ought to be among my friends, for I am fighting for State rights and free trade." The reply was, of course, satisfactory.

The central government, though it tries hard to wear a confident look, is continually betraying its uneasiness, and its want of faith in the issue of this struggle. Santa Anna is believed to have carefully laid up treasures in England, as a caution for the future. But a still more curious proof of distrust in the firmness of his tenure of power, is afforded by a recent appeal to the Mexican people, proposing that a popular vote shall be taken on the 1st December, to decide whether Santa Anna shall remain in office, or retire to that privacy which he professes especially to desire. This appears to be a mere contrivance to break the fall of the Dictator. But perhaps he is really tired of a position in which he has signally failed either to restore the abased national pride of his country, or to advance its prosperity—in which his history is written in the decay of commerce and agriculture, the encroachments of the savage tribes, the increasing insecurity of life and property, and, finally, in the desolation of civil war through a large portion of the republic.

AN AMERICAN ARRESTED IN MEXICO.

[From the Brownsville (Texas) Flag, Oct. 7.]

Last week Capt. Armstrong, an officer on the steamer Comanche, was arrested by the military authorities of Mexico and detained in a manner that can only be accounted for by a desire to harrass and annoy our citizens. The facts relating to this arrest, as we heard them related by an eye witness, are as follows:

The steamer was on her upward trip from this place, and when a short distance below Rio Grande city, the boat run out of wood. There being none on the American, Capt. King ordered some of his men to take the yawl, cross on to the Mexican bank and there purchase sufficient to take them to where wood could be procured. Capt. Armstrong, who was clerk of the boat, with her commander, Capt. King, accompanied the party after the wood; Capt. Armstrong taking a gun with him with which to amuse himself while the hands were at work. He had strayed but a short distance from his party when he was beset by a band of soldiers, who pursued him to the river and there arrested him and carried him prisoner to Camargo.

Now, the mere fact of this arrest might be excusable had it ended there, as a recently issued order commanding the arrest of all persons crossing armed into that bank might argue justification. But such was not the case. Immediately after the arrival of the boat at Rio Grande City, Captain King stated the facts to the commandant of the American post of Fort Belknap, and together they related the occurrence to the commandant of the Mexican forces at Camargo, proving the entire ignorance on the part of Captain Armstrong of the prohibitory decree, and his utter innocence of any criminal intent, and asked his discharge. No sound reason could be urged for his detention—his innocence could have been proved by almost every inhabitant of Camargo, if not by the Mexican commanding officer himself, having been running the river for the last seven years, and favorably known to every one on either bank. All this would not suffice for those who are "clothed with a little brief authority," however. They have their prisoner, and must need annoy him awhile. An excuse was urged that Gen. Woll, at Matamoras, must be consulted, and in the meantime an American citizen, for no offence in fact, must be incarcerated in a loathsome prison, perhaps with the vilest of felons, until the modern pasha of this frontier, hundreds of miles distant, shall be consulted as to his liberty.

INTELLIGENCE FROM BUENOS AYRES.—The bark Prescott, arrived at this port on Saturday, brings Buenos Ayres dates to September 20. General Urquiza, who, at last accounts, was seriously ill, has resumed his station as the President of the Confederated Provinces. The richest province, however, (Buenos Ayers) still holds aloof, and has organized a separate and independant government. The Buenos Ayres *Packet* is of opinion that Urquiza still has a design to invade and conquer that province. The *Packet* says:—

"Our line of frontier, beginning with the Arroyo del Medio, must be put in a state of security and defence, without any nice civilizations on the amount it may cost, or the sacrifices it may entail. It is there, on the open field, that the expectant invaders must be met, and the threatened tempest conjured; not in the lanes and alleys of the suburbs of the capital. It is in the rural districts of the State, in our flocks and herds, and nascent agricultural establishments, that our intellectual and reproductive wealth is situated; and the rural proprietors and town consumers are equally interested in leaving no means unessayed to provide for their safety and tranquillity. Let the military police be forthwith organized, and every supplemental measure and precaution be resorted to that prudence can suggest; for whether the annual cost may be five or ten millions, we hold to be secondary considerations, unworthy of a moment's reflection or deliberation. What was the cost of the late invasion, and what might it not have been, but for a consummate statesmanship?

"In the remembrance of that fearful conflict, we have a cogent argument in favor of a decided union and harmonious co-operation, and against the unseemly personal squabbles, and the ill-timed factious opposition, that invite a renewal of similar dangers. What is the holocaust of victims still incomplete? We appeal to the common sense of the community."

The plan of a national currency for the confederated provinces (similar to the United States Bank) is like to meet with much opposition.

The British Consul at Buenos Ayres informs the British subjects settled in that country, that if they lend any money to Russia, they will be deemed guilty of high treason.

On the 16th of September there were 125 vessels in the port of Buenos Ayres, of which 15 were American, 24 British, 33 Spanish, 7 French, and the remainder of other European nations and Brazilian.—*Boston Traveller, Nov. 20.*

A JUSTICE ARRESTED FOR INCITING A RIOT.—Among the rioters in Newark, N. J., on the 19th inst., an account of which has already been published, was one of the Seventh ward justices of the peace, D. A. Cogan, Esq., who undertook to become the champion of the prisoners, and declared that the officers, or whoever struck the man, ought to be killed, and if they were all brought before him he would discharge the Irishmen and commit the officers; whereupon the multitude immediately made an onset upon the officers. Stones, brickbats, and other missiles, were thrown, one of which severely injured officer Hall in the head. The mob, thus incited, succeeded in rescuing the prisoners from the policemen; but assistance soon after arrived from the station house, and they were re-arrested and taken before Justice Hyde, who committed them. Officer Hall subsequently made an affidavit before Justice Hyde fully substantiating the above particulars, and expressing his belief that the mob were instigated and encouraged by David A. Cogan. Other officers and eye witnesses also declare themselves ready to make oath to the truthfulness of Mr. Hall's statement. On the evidence of officer Hall, Justice Hyde early this morning issued a warrant for the arrest of Justice Cogan. The officer at first searched his house without being able to find him; but soon after he voluntarily surrendered himself to Justice Hyde, and was held to bail in the sum of $1,000. Such conduct on the part of a public officer will receive the severe condemnation of the public voice, as well as the courts of justice, unless the subject of it can show a better reason for his course than is now apparent.—*Newark Advertiser, Nov. 20.*

INTERESTING FROM SAN DOMINGO.

Our Dominican Correspondence.

ACTION OF THE ENGLISH AND FRENCH CONSULS—IMPERIAL MANDATE OF THE EMPEROR SOULOUQUE—APPEARANCE OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY—UNIVERSALITY OF ENGLISH INTERFERENCE—FAUSTIN THE FIRST, NEGRO RULE, AND AMERICAN FREEDOM.

CITY OF ST. DOMINGO, Oct. 19, 1854.

I arrived safely here, in this City of the Holy Sunday, about a week since.

I find a great political commotion in regard to the American treaty, and as you know me to be a man "who would nothing extenuate or aught set down in malice," I will give you an account of how affairs actually are here, as I have learned from the best authority. It appears that General Cazeneau, of Texas, a shrewd, intelligent man, has arrived here as Plenipotentiary of the United States, to make a treaty with this republic, and which treaty ought to have been made years ago. Well, the treaty was drawn up to the complete satisfaction of all parties, when the French and English Consuls protested against this government making a treaty with the United States different from theirs, at the same time presenting a letter from Emperor Soulouque, stating that he would not allow friendly intercourse with the Americans, also threatening this republic that if they did sign such a treaty they would withdraw the mediation, and let loose the Haytiens upon them.

Tell me, where is the boasted protection of our government to those who would be free, and their opposition to European interference in the domestic affairs of the American family? I also understand that what has created great excitement here, and great opposition to our intended treaty, is a supposition that we want Samana, the finest bay, probably, on this side of the world.

It appears that the frigate Columbia, Commodore Newton, and the sloop-of-war Albany, visited this bay, and certainly took some observations—the same as English and French vessels of war heretofore have; but if such had been the intention of our government, Commodore Newton would never have been so stupid as to go there; and, moreover, if we really wanted it, what or who can prevent us from taking it?

Go where you will, you will always find British interference and intrigue at work. I have heard it said that the Americans only wanted to make a treaty here to make slaves of these people, and really the ignorant portion of the community believe it. How preposterous and absurd!—how small and contemptible, are the means used by British emissaries to prevent us from enlightening these people and teaching them true liberty!

The English and French have clearly shown, from what I learn, that they wish this weak, little but valiant republic under the dominion of that despotical negro Faustin the First, and I hope his title will shortly conclude with "the last." While these philanthropists as they call themselves, are circulating the highly embellished and costly bound fiction of Madame Stowe (and all the harm I wish that lady is, that she should be obliged to live in Hayti six months), they are actually protecting and giving aid to a barbarous set of brute negroes, whose acts, from the time they began to govern, have been of the most barbarous, blood-thirsty and atrocious kind, against the whites, and particularly against the people of this republic, who never offended them.

My intention is to go to Santiago in a few days, and I shall let you know the true sentiment of the people, as I understand they are a very intelligent class, very industrious, and free from bigotry, superstition and European influence.

I will also endeavor to send you some description of the country. Until then, adieu. PATRICK.

The Capitol at Albany and the State Library.

[From the Albany Register, Nov. 20.]

The Capitol extension is nearly completed, and the improvement is a substantial and timely one. The Assembly chamber is about finished, and it is truly a noble room now. The old shape is preserved, but a very beautiful ceiling has been substituted, and the walls are elegantly painted. It will be handsomely refurnished, and ready for its occupants before the 1st of January.

The rooms formerly occupied by the State library are being converted into apartments for the use of committees of both houses. One or two new rooms have been constructed for the use of members, in the south end of the new portion of the building.

The State library has been entirely removed to the splendid edifice erected for its use, though the books have not yet been all arranged. The work of shelving them is rapidly progressing, and the library will be thrown open to readers on the 1st of January next.

The upper room of the library is one of the most beautiful in the United States. Its architectural proportions are remarkably perfect. The entire edifice, even in the minutest details of its construction, is an admirable piece of work, an honor to the State, and indicative of the fine taste and cultivated judgment of its designers.

The Capitol is immediately connected with the library at the south end, by short galleries and flights of stairs.

The extensive collection of coins that enrich the library is to be arranged in elegant cases in the galleries of the upper room. The American medals, of which there is a choice collection, are to be arranged in a circular revolving frame, and in such a manner as to be most readily and conveniently seen and examined. We are glad to see that much room is to be appropriated to these departments. Collections of coins and medals are always of great interest. We learn that France is about to present to the State 300 medals, illustrative of the history and reigns of that nation. A large and beautiful chronometer clock has been placed in the upper room of the library.

Murder in Canada.

[From the Toronto Colonist, Nov. 15.]

We stated in the *Colonist* of Tuesday, that Mr. James Sheppard, a relative of Mr. Sheppard of Yonge street, had been murdered near the corner of Kingston and Markham roads, on the line of the Grand Trunk railroad, on the night of Saturday last, or early on the following Sunday morning. An inquest has been held on the body by Mr. Coroner Duggan of this city. The verdict which the jury returned, was one of wilful murder against Mathew Gleeson and Timothy Magrath. The former admitted his guilt. The most strange part of the affair is, that Sheppard, who is an Englishman, was murdered on account of his religion, he being a Protestant, and the two murderers Roman Catholics.

This was stated in effect by Gleeson, but we should hope it is not correct. If true, it is alarming to think that religious bigotry should lead to the commission of such a horrible crime.—Gleeson, on being asked why he had committed the deed, said that he had no ill feeling against deceased, as an acquaintance, but that his religion alone induced them to kill him. Eight men altogether were arrested on suspicion, by order of Mr. Wheeler, J. P., who displayed much activity on hearing of the awful occurrence. Sheppard was brutally murdered, not having, as far as yet known, given the slightest provocation on his part—his only offence being, as one of the prisoners stated, that he was a Protestant. He seems to have been held in esteem by his fellow workmen.

DUEL NEAR BURLINGTON.—A report was quite current in our city on Saturday afternoon, that a duel had been fought between two Philadelphians, in the neighborhood of Burlington. The parties, a doctor, as was said, and a lawyer, left the city at an early hour, accompanied by their friends, and proceeded to a small piece of woods on the south of the town of Burlington, where, after the usual preliminaries, shots were exchanged, both taking effect. One of them was wounded in the left arm, the other in the right thigh. Neither wound was dangerous, as we learn. Though both were eager for a second shot, the seconds interfered and insisted that their wounded honor had been healed by the blood that had been spilt, and they succeeded in effecting a reconciliation of the combatants. The company then proceeded to the hotel of Captain Agnew, at Burlington, where, after their wounds were dressed, an entertainment was served up. The duel originated about a female, an insult having been offered to the wife of one, by the other, a single man. Burke was wrong when he said that the age of chivalry had gone. Surely there is much chivalry in this leaving home at an early hour in the morning, and going some twenty miles before breakfast, to be shot at. We made an effort to get the names of the principals in the affair, but without success.—*Philadelphia Pennsylvanian, Nov. 20.*

THE BURLINGTON DUEL—A FOOLISH TRICK.—We have this morning learned the particulars of the duel which was reported to have come off near Burlington on Saturday. It appears that three young gentlemen of this city, one of whom is a merchant, another a physician, and the third a member of the legal profession, while at Burlington on Friday on a frolic, arranged a sham duel, to come off between two of their number on the following morning.

The plan was put in execution; blank shots were fired; the merchant pretended to be wounded in the arm; his assumed opponent shammed to have received a shot in the thigh; and the farce ended with a pretended reconciliation.

The parties in the affair are annoyed at various rumors that have grown out of the transaction, but they have nobody to blame but themselves, for figuring at all in so foolish a transaction. We have the names of those concerned, but refrain from making them public.

The occurrence was considered as a jest, and it was designed to restrict all knowledge of it to a certain circle; but it has gone farther than was at first intended, and the actors in it are reaping the fruit of their own folly.—*Philadelphia Bulletin, Nov. 20.*

Mr. Belmont and His Calumniators.

[From the Washington Union.]

In the private walks of life the detection of flagrant, deliberate falsehood excludes the offender, if not wholly from intercourse with, yet certainly from the respect and confidence of the highminded and honorable. If he be not wholly insensible to the good opinion of his fellow-men, he will attempt to regain the position in society which he has so foolishly and so wickedly lost, by apology, repentance and amendment. As a general rule it would seem as if the press of this country were exempt from the penalties imposed, in private, for all violations of this social law. In many instances the exposure of one published falsehood affords the pretext for the utterance of a second, more base and malicious, if possible, than the first. As an example, we might refer to the systematic course of mendacity pursued by several New York journals for the purpose of damaging the public and private reputation of the American minister at the Hague, Mr. Belmont. The *Tribune*, as well as the HERALD, accused Mr. Belmont of combining with the duties of a minister the business of a banker—of converting, in short, the American legation at the Hague into a "shaving shop," to use the elegant and technical language of Wall street. As soon as this grave accusation became known to Mr. Belmont he promptly placed in our possession such irrefragable proofs of his entire innocence as enabled us to expose the malicious falsehoods of his calumniators in all their naked deformity. The HERALD partially retracted; but retracted without apology or explanation. The *Tribune*, more hardened in guilt, and rendered bold by the quasi toleration of a public long accustomed to its insolent course of vituperation and falsehood, coolly turned round when detected, and blusteringly observed, "Well, if Mr. Belmont has not a banking house at the Hague, did he not, as the agent of the Rothschilds, negotiate the late Russian loan? Explain that away, if you can." We have already given a plain and unequivocal denial to this last accusation; and it now gives us much pleasure to add that we have the necessary documents before us, which entirely relieve him—not from the suspicions of his friends, for they have not, for a single moment, doubted his high sense of honor and inherent dignity of character—but from the wretched fabrications of a corrupt and corrupting press.

When this story about the Russian loan reached Mr. Belmont, he naturally enough felt indignant at this renewed evidence of malignant persecution; and very properly adopted such means as were at his command to place himself in a true position before the country whose nationality he represented as a foreign court. He promptly addressed letters to the American consuls at Rotterdam and Amsterdam, and to Col. Bohlen, the latter being the only American gentleman at the Hague who did not occupy an official position, and whose political predilections were unknown to Mr. B. In these three letters, Mr. Belmont repeats the infamous charges preferred against him by the New York *Tribune* and HERALD, and asks for plain, categorical answers as to their truth or falsity. These gentlemen answer as follows:—

ROTTERDAM, Oct. 19, 1854.

MY DEAR SIR—I have seen the article in the New York *Tribune* received by the last mail. At its malicious personalities I cannot wonder that you are justly annoyed. These charges, with which you have been recently distinguished by the correspondents of some of the New York papers, from my own ample opportunity of knowing the contrary, I have only regarded as simple absurdities; but as void of truth and as absurd as they are, they are calculated to lessen the dignity of our country abroad by being directed against one of its representatives, and I agree with you that they ought to be noticed and refuted. To this end I bear cheerful and willing testimony:—

That since your residence in Holland, I have not known or ever suspected you of having transacted any commercial or banking business whatever, and much less to have opened an office for that purpose.

That during my frequent visits at the office of the legation, I have never perceived anything that would warrant even the suspicion that you were occupied with any other than the legitimate duties of your office, or the reasonable and usual attention to ordinary personal matters, and that except Mr. Prime, your attaché, I have never seen or known of any other clerk at any time in your employment.

That the charge of your connection or agency in the negotiation of a Russian loan is, in my opinion, utterly unfounded in truth; and that, with ample opportunities, and among the commercial and other circles here, I have never heard the rumor or the expression of a suspicion of such a connection or agency of yours with any Russian or other European government loan. Yours, very truly, W. S. CAMPBELL.

HON. A. BELMONT, Minister Resident of the United States of America at the Hague.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 19, 1854.

DEAR SIR—I have just now received yours of the 18th instant, informing me that certain charges had been made against you in recent numbers of the New York *Tribune* and HERALD, and requesting me, as the commercial agent of the United States, to answer the following queries:—

1st. "Have you, at any time, heard among the commercial and financial circles at Amsterdam, that I had negotiated a loan for the Russian army or any other government in Europe?"

I answer—That I have never heard of anything of the kind.

2d. "In your several visits to the Hague, have you seen anything which would warrant even the most remote suspicion that I was personally engaged in any commercial or exchange business in this residence, or that any clerks were employed by me for such a purpose, in or out of the office of the legation?"

I answer—That nothing that I have seen in my visits to you at the Hague has ever excited the remotest suspicions in my mind, nor have I ever heard, that you were engaged personally in commercial business, or that you had employed clerks for such purposes, either in or out of the office of the legation.

I remain yours, very truly, R. G. BARNWELL.

Hon. AUGUST BELMONT, &c., &c.

BEEKESTYN, Oct. 19, 1854.

DEAR SIR—Your letter of yesterday reached us this morning, and I hasten to comply with your request of an early reply.

To the queries which you have proposed to me I have no hesitation in answering, that the charges which you state are made against you are without any foundation.

No one in the Hague, nor in Holland, suspects you of transacting a banking business at the Hague, much less of having negotiated a Russian or any other loan while there; nor have I heard any rumor whatever unfavorable to your private or official conduct in your relations with the authorities of this country, which I believe to have been such as become the dignity of the country you represent, whilst I know your intercourse with the general society of the Hague to have been of the most friendly kind.

I regret you should have been annoyed by charges made so unjustly in some of our newspapers. Very respectfully, your most obedient servant, HENRY BOHLEN.

Hon. AUGUST BELMONT, &c., &c.

In order to give an air of plausibility to this now exploded charge about the Russian loan, a silly story was put in circulation by one, if not both the papers named, relative to the paternity of Mr. Belmont. It was gravely asserted that Mr. B. was the natural son of one of the Rothschilds; and, by a process of reasoning peculiar to these journals, the alleged bar sinister on the escutcheon of our minister at the Hague was indubitable evidence of his complicity in the financial affairs of the Czar Nicholas. We have before us a letter from the elder Mr. Belmont to his son. Instead of being a Rothschild, and a member of the greatest banking house in the world, the worthy old gentleman is the owner of a small estate in Germany, the cultivation of which appears to afford ample amusement and occupation for the declining years of his life.

A Negro Execution in Virginia.

[From the Richmond Enquirer, Nov. 18.]

Yesterday, between 11 and 12 o'clock, negro Washington, the slave of Mr. Thomas O. Burton, was put to death on the gallows, in a ravine a short distance northeast of the Poor House, precisely on the spot on which the two pirates, Clements and Reed, paid the penalty of their crimes about two years since. Negro Washington, a few weeks ago, was found guilty, by the County Court of Henrico, of setting fire to a barn on the farm of Benjamin W. Green, six miles west of this city; and for this crime he was executed. He was taken to the gallows in a furniture wagon; and after a conversation of about fifteen minutes with Mr. Hutchinson, Sheriff of Henrico county, the rope was attached to the crossbeam, the wagon moved off, and the wretched creature was launched from time into eternity.

No clergy attended his last moments, and the solemn affair was attended with but little ceremony. He went to the gallows in a laborer's dress, of shirt, pantaloons, and a small old sharp-crowned white hat; and in these clothes, with the addition of a white handkerchief over his eyes, he was hanged. To the very last moment he persisted in declaring his innocence of the crime for which his life was to be taken. Five or six hundred persons, chiefly negroes, were present to witness the execution. The smallness of the gathering we regard as an evidence that executions have lost their novelty in this city.

The criminal was a young and stout man of ginger bread complexion, and strongly marked with negro features, having a large mouth, thick lips, and a physiognomy indicative of great stupidity. It was evident, from his looks and demeanor at the gallows, that he had not sufficient mind to comprehend and realise his awful situation. From the first to the last he exhibited not the slightest sensibility, but yielded to the awful penalty with as much coolness and composure as if assigned an ordinary duty of every day life.

THE ARCTIC'S BOAT.—The *Advertiser* learns from a gentleman who was at St. Johns, N. F., when the schooner Lilly Dale arrived there, that the boat she brought in was one of the Arctic's lifeboats, and that the oars were marked "Arctic"—all stories to the contrary notwithstanding. It is singular, to say the least, that no more definite account of this